

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/688,492

Examiner

Anita M. King

Applicant(s)

WILLEY, KEVIN E.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed May 26, 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-24.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

This is the third office action for application number 10/688,492, Multi-Purpose Upright Stand with Leg Assemblies having Hinge-Fitting, filed on October 17, 2003.

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: some of the primary reasons for the allowance of the claims in this application are the limitations of a collapsible apparatus having first, second, and third leg assemblies, an upper end of each leg assembly pivotally secured to an upper support member, a lower end of each leg assembly pivotally secured to a lower collar support, each leg assembly having a hinge-fitting interconnecting first and second elongated subassemblies, the fitting adapted to permit at least a pivot range of 170-degrees of rotation and comprises a locking mechanism for holding the fitting in a rotation-direction, now included in independent claim 1 and in combination with the other elements recited in the claim; a collapsible apparatus having first, second, and third leg assemblies, an upper end of each leg assembly pivotally secured to an upper support member, a lower end of each leg assembly pivotally secured to a lower collar support, each leg assembly having a hinge-fitting interconnecting first and second elongated subassemblies and adapted to permit at least a pivot range of 90-degrees of rotation, each fitting including first and second extensions pivotally enjoined, an insert shaped to releasably fit within an aperture in the lower collar support, and an anchor having a looped-end adapted to accept a fastener, included in independent claim 4 and in combination with the other elements recited in the claim; a collapsible apparatus having first, second, and third leg

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assemblies, an upper end of each leg assembly pivotally secured to an upper support member, a lower end of each leg assembly pivotally secured to a lower collar support, each leg assembly having a hinge-fitting interconnecting first and second elongated subassemblies and adapted to permit at least a pivot range of 90-degrees of rotation, each fitting including first and second extensions, and each subassembly having a plurality of telescoping tubular sections, included in independent claim 8 and in combination with the other elements recited in the claim; a collapsible apparatus having first, second, and third leg assemblies, an upper end of each leg assembly pivotally secured to an upper support member, a lower end of each leg assembly pivotally secured to a lower collar support, each leg assembly having a hinge-fitting interconnecting first and second elongated subassemblies, each of the fittings having first and second extensions pivotally enjoined and securely inserted within a tubular end-section of a respective one of the subassemblies, included in independent claim 15 and in combination with the other elements recited in the claim; and a collapsible apparatus having first, second, and third leg assemblies, an upper end of each leg assembly pivotally secured to an upper support member, a lower end of each leg assembly pivotally secured to a lower collar support, each leg assembly having a hinge-fitting interconnecting first and second elongated subassemblies, each subassembly comprising a plurality of telescoping, interlocking tubular sections, and an insert having an inner-aperture shaped to accept a perimeter of an article and is shaped to releasably fit within the aperture in the upper support member, included in independent claim 23 and in combination with the other elements recited in the claim. These combinations of

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elements are not found in the prior art of record. Also, see applicant's remarks pages 13-18 in regards to the applicability of the prior art in relation to the claimed language.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

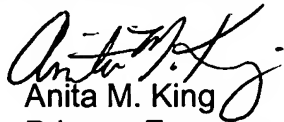
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anita M. King whose telephone number is (571) 272-6817. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Carl Friedman can be reached on (571) 272-6842. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


Anita M. King
Primary Examiner
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August 3, 2006